



## View Publisher to Become Emeritus



Ruth Passen, who has been working with the Potrero View since 1970, retires this month—leaving a voluminous legacy behind her. Photo by Todd McNaught

By Steven J. Moss

After thirty-six years of doing everything from lay-out – by hand – to editing, writing, and even delivering the View, publisher Ruth Passen will become publisher emeritus after the paper's June edition.

Ms. Passen, along with a small but dedicated crew of volunteers, helped launch the paper in 1970. Richard Nixon was President, the Vietnam War raged, and women and minorities were fighting for their civil

rights; an historical period perhaps not so different from today. The View, which is San Francisco's longest-running community newspaper, reflected the spirit of the times, and of the Potrero community. It was a communal effort, no one was paid, and most of the early articles appeared without a by-line.

Born in San Francisco to Russian immigrants, Ms. Passen grew up in a community of Polish and Russian Jews whose common language was music and Yiddish. She and

her two older brothers got their first work experience scanning and inspecting eggs at her father's store, "Fillmore Petaluma Egg Distributors" in the Fillmore district. Thus began a lifelong appreciation for small businesses.

In grade school Ms. Passen stuck out in class photos as one of the few white kids in a Japanese-dominated neighborhood. As she graduated to Lowell High school, there were many new African-American friends to be

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## Hunters Point Power Plant Closed Politicians' Pride, Community's Victory

Allyse Heartwell  
Special to the  
Neighborhood Newswire

The people of Hunters View, located on a wind-swept hill at the eastern tip of Hunters Point, are celebrating. The Bayview housing complex commands a sweeping view of the Bay – as well as Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Hunters Point Power Plant, who's emission stack appears to be pointing directly into their homes. For almost a century the power plant spewed pollutants into the air, driving the community into a protracted battle to shut it down. On Monday, May 15th, the fight ended with the plant's long-awaited closure.

The Bayview-Hunters Point community has a long history of environmental neglect. Most of San Francisco's largest sources of air, water, and land pollution are located here. The Hunters Point plant was the second largest stationary cause of both air and water pollution, after the nearby Potrero Power Plant, and one of the oldest and dirtiest plants in California.

To celebrate its demise, a small crowd

gathered for a barbecue sponsored by the Hunters View Tenants Association. Attendees included residents, well-wishers, a television crew, nonprofit groups, and hungry teenagers. "We even got city officials on the hill!" someone joked, as Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi addressed the cameras. "Whatever dog and pony show happens in a couple weeks, this is not the result of current politicians," he said of the closure, "This is the result of lots of hard work. There are some heroes in this crowd."

Tessie Ester, a longtime resident and member of the Hunters View Mother's Committee for Health and Environmental Justice, is one of those heroes. But she's inclined to spread credit for the victory widely. "If the community doesn't stick together we're nothing," she said, "It's about teamwork."

The loose coalition of community groups and nonprofit organizations that worked towards the plant's closure was launched in 1998 by Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice. "We couldn't have done it without Greenaction," said Ester.

Marie Harrison, a longtime neigh-

borhood resident and Greenaction organizer, characterized the effort as driven by common sense. "I don't believe that it matters if you're an engineer or a scientist. You have a true interest in saving your community, and that's all you need," she said, "But a community that's slapped up and pushed down a lot needs to get built back up. We teach people how to fish, so to speak – how to do things for themselves."

Maurice Campbell of Community First Coalition seconded Harrison's people-centric view. "Let's not get bogged down in all of this," he says of the technical details, "In the end what you have to look at is people and the suffering of people."

In addition to being home to the vast majority of San Francisco's pollution, this low-income, highly diverse neighborhood is subjected to most of the City's industrial and municipal waste processing, a radioactive Superfund site, and high cancer and asthma rates. "People of color should not be set upon like this. Low income people should not be set upon like this,"

*Continued on page 13*

## City Officials Move a Step Closer to Closing the Potrero Power Plant

By Gretchen Helsel

It was hurry up and wait for several high-level city officials who attended the Regional Water Quality Control Board's May 10 meeting in Oakland to consider extending the Potrero Power Plant's water quality permit for another five years. City Attorney Dennis Herrera – a Dogpatch resident -- Board of Supervisors President Aaron Peskin, District 10 Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, and San Francisco Public Utility Commission General Manager Susan Leal waited five hours before being given the opportunity to argue against the Board staff's recommendation to extend the Plant's permit.

Under the federal Clean Water Act, any source that discharges pollutants into a water body must obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit. The Potrero Plant has been operating under the same "five-year" permit it was granted in 1994, receiving administrative extensions since 1999. Despite severe opposition from the City, Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), the Golden Gate University Environmental Law and Justice Clinic, and community groups, the Water Board's staff recommended that the permit be extended until 2011, a 17-year run for the original five-year permit.

Mirant Corporation, which purchased the 40-year-old power plant from Pacific Gas and Electric Company in 1999, fully supported the staff proposal. "We are aware of the community's concerns and will address them," said Mirant's Vice President of Business Operations Jeff Russell. "I urge the board to pass the permit based on sound science and the state regulations we follow."

The plant manages the heat it generates through a "once-through cooling" system, which sucks 226 million gallons of water daily from the Bay, runs it through the facility, and spits it back out. The entire process takes about three minutes. Twenty California, power plants, including the just-closed Hunter's Point Power Plant, rely on once-

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# Democratic Plans Will Lower Gas Prices, Promote Energy Independence



## By Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi

Time and again, on issues of concern to American families, President Bush and his rubber stamp Republican Congress have failed to address the crucial needs of all Americans. One must look no further than the skyrocketing gas prices that are weakening our economy and squeezing middle-class families to see who wins and who loses under the Republican special-interest agenda. Big Oil is reaping record profits while the American people are stuck footing the bill. Democrats have a new direction for America.

Democrats have real solutions to high gas prices that protect the American people, not Big Oil. Our Innovation Agenda will achieve energy independence within 10 years through clean, sustainable energy alternatives such as solar power. Here in San Francisco, the Moscone Center, one of the nation's largest municipally-owned solar generation installations, serves as a symbol to our commitment to leading the way in the use of emerging technologies and energy alternatives. Our plan will reduce our dependence on foreign oil to enhance our national security as well.

Last month, I joined the Democratic Rural Working Group to unveil our biofuels initiative that calls for real invest-

ments in alternative fuels, tapping into America's vast resources and ingenuity. From corn in the Midwest, to soybeans in North Carolina, to sugar beets in Minnesota, Americans can grow the crops that can be converted into the fuel that powers our cars and are environmental friendly, while creating higher-paying jobs at home. Through real investments in alternative fuels, we will send our dollars to the Midwest, not the Middle East.

Meanwhile, across the country, Americans are paying the price at the pump for the failed Republican energy agenda that was developed in secret and written for and by the energy industry. With two oil men in the White House, it's no surprise that Big Oil got a seat at the table. The price of gasoline has more than doubled since President Bush took office, while hard-working families have seen their income fall every year of his presidency.

Last year, ExxonMobil raked in record profits of \$36 billion, yet Republicans in Congress passed more than \$8 billion in tax breaks and subsidies for oil and gas companies instead of providing relief to consumers, small businesses and farmers. Republican policies that favor the wealthy few are causing Americans serious hardship. The Bush Administration's own Department of Energy acknowledged that the Republican energy bill would do nothing to lower gas prices, and would in fact increase the price at the pump.

Democrats have introduced legislation to rescind billions of dollars in tax breaks and subsidies for profit-rich oil companies and suspend royalty relief when prices are high. Republicans finally joined Democratic efforts to end price gouging, nearly a year after we introduced legislation aimed at protecting American consumers and bringing much-needed relief from record prices.

Democrats are fighting to take our country in a new direction, one that works for everyone with lower energy prices and energy independence. Together, American can do better than the Republican energy policy of record gas prices, record giveaways, and record profits for oil companies.

# Esprit Park: Patch for Dogs



Deena Minwalla and William Taylor, residents of Potrero Hill's Dogpatch neighborhood, stand in front of the fence surrounding Esprit Park in anticipation of it's grand re-opening.

By Gretchen Helsel

Esprit Park, located on 19th Street in Potrero Hill's Dogpatch neighborhood, is scheduled to re-open this summer after receiving a much-needed face-lift from the San Francisco Department of Parks and Recreation. But while new vegetation has been planted, the community continues to debate how dogs and people should best co-exist in the 12,000 square-foot green space.

Last month the Dogpatch Neighborhood Association (DNA) sponsored a packed forum to discuss how best to balance park uses between small children and large dogs. One participant -- Michael Woods, a Dogpatch resident and single father of a 12-year-old boy -- said he and his son are highly allergic to dogs and cats. Woods would like to see a separate "people-only" park area. "It is not human-only if walking dogs, on or off leash, can go through it," said Woods.

Mary Tienken, the Department's Esprit Park project director, indicated that "A division between a dog area and a non-dog area probably would be required," adding that city parks with less than 10 acres are required to have an enclosure for dogs.

The Department weighs several factors when determining the appropriate size for a dog play area, including the amount of available land and the surrounding dog population. Tienken noted that Esprit Park will probably be an exception to some of the Department's typical enclosure requirements. For instance, an enclosed dog play area is usually required to be a minimum of 10,000 square-feet, or about the size of 1.4 tennis courts. In Esprit Park's case such an enclosure would leave just 2,000 square-feet

available for a separate people-only park area.

Another city requirement is that off-leash dog play areas must have a community sponsor to ensure cleanliness and enforce park rules. Carma Keats recently founded Dogpatch Dogs to do just that. "Membership in DD means a willingness to take responsibility (for dog areas)," said Keats. She has a list of more than 100 Dogpatch residents who have one or more dogs, though she estimates that there might be twice that many dog-owning households in the neighborhood. "It will benefit the entire community if our dogs have an area big enough so they can burn off some steam," said Keats.

However people and dogs ultimately share the outdoor space, Esprit Park is a vital part of Potrero Hill's history. It took Friends of Esprit Park, an association primarily composed of nearby residents, a half-decade to convince the City to buy the park from Esprit Corporation. In 2000 the City purchased the property. "When Esprit owned it, they could have sold it to developers and we could have 150 condos there now," said DNA Corresponding Secretary Janet Carpinelli. "But people stepped up then to make sure that did not happen, so now a lot of people have a stake in it."

Most meeting attendees appeared to support shared use of the park by people and off-leash dogs. It's now up to the community to coordinate a single proposal to recommend to the City next month. In the end it's likely that more than a third of the park will be designated as "people-only," with low, natural hedges, rather than traditional fences, used as barriers. In the meantime, Keats continues to recruit volunteers to help monitor the dog play area.



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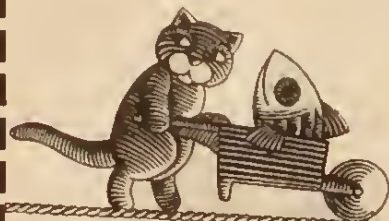
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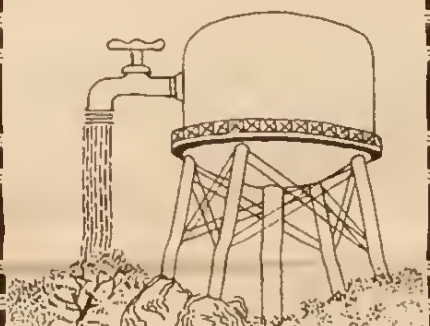
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## Potrero Hill Park Redesign Completed

By Claudia Siegel

In early May the Trust for Public Land held its third and final workshop to obtain neighborhood suggestions on how best to redesign the aging Potrero Hill Park located at the top of Arkansas Street. Under the adopted plan, funds for which are being raised by the Trust, the playground will double in size, include separate areas for pre-school and elementary school age children, and feature new lighting and a community gathering and performance space.

The proposed play area, which was enthusiastically supported by the approximately one-dozen workshop participants, will sport new equipment – including four swings – and a sand area with water. Additional seating, picnic tables and barbecue grills will also be installed. The plans call for a limited amount of tree removal and trimming as a way to create more sun and greater views from the park.

The plan, which must be approved by the City, will be presented to the Recreation and Park Commission in June. If all goes well – including fundraising efforts – construction will be completed by the Summer, 2007.

Potrero Hill residents who are interested in supporting or actively using the park, such as holding an event, teaching or attending a class, participating in a park stewardship committee, or commenting on proposed art projects should contact Jennifer.Worth@tpl.org, 415.495.5660 x 386.

## From Sacramento and Your Neighborhood



**by Mark Leno**  
**Assemblyman, 13th District**

**Greetings Neighbors!**

Welcome to Pride Month in San Francisco! This marks the 36th year that cities across the nation have celebrated Pride as a way to highlight our beautiful diversity and support civil liberties for all. Pride is also when we appreciate the hard work of pioneering advocates who came before us and who struggled for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community's right to be treated with dignity and respect—a struggle that continues to this day.

We trace the origins of Pride to the last weekend of June in 1969. The Civil Rights movement had been in full swing for at least a decade. The "Second Wave" of the Women's Movement was taking root. Protests against the Vietnam War were growing. Robert F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. had been assassinated a year prior. Within this social and political context, another movement was about to emerge.

June 27, 1969 was a seemingly quiet day in New York City's Greenwich Village, but it turned out to be a loud night of protests and would become the clarion call for a new generation. It was on this night that the police, along with the Beverage Control Board, raided a popular gay bar, the Stonewall Inn. The police claimed they were there to enforce liquor laws. The problem was that these laws were being selectively used against establishments catering to LGBT individuals.

At the time, police raids on gay bars were common practice. In fact, most patrons did not protest because they were afraid of being publicly exposed as gay or lesbian. This fear only gave police greater power to physically abuse, arrest, and

scare people into submission without resistance. To compound the situation, the target of those attacks would oftentimes be listed in the newspaper the next day as part of a societal campaign to intimidate, threaten, and shame these individuals.

However, minorities can take tyranny and oppression for only so long before they finally say "enough is enough!" For queer folks in New York, that moment came on this June night in 1969, when the patrons of The Stonewall Inn fought back. The resulting three nights of rioting gave birth to a social change movement in which thousands "came out of the closet" and proudly proclaimed their identity. The next year, 5,000 LGBT individuals marched in New York City to commemorate the first year anniversary of the Stonewall Riots.

Each year in June, hundreds of cities, large and small, hold a festival and parade to honor that rebellion, and celebrate the newfound pride in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community. San Francisco is home to one of the largest Pride festivals in the world, with a month-long series of events and programs throughout June, culminating in the annual parade down Market Street. To find out more about this year's Pride events, contact San Francisco Pride at (415) 864-FREE (3733) or via the web at <http://www.sfpide.org>.

To learn more about the history of this ongoing movement, you can also visit the GLBT Historical Society at 657 Mission Street #300 where they have exhibits, galleries, archival materials, and on-going programs that provide a wealth of knowledge about the LGBT experience. You can find them on the web at <http://www.glbthistory.org> or call (415) 777-5455.

The struggle for LGBT inclusion continues today in the California Legislature, where I am proud to be a co-author for the Bias Free Curriculum Act of 2006, Senate Bill 1437, which would require that the historical contributions of LGBT Americans be reflected in the textbooks used in California's public schools. This would give students a broader, more inclusive picture of our society, and has statistically been shown to reduce harassment and increase positive attitudes and fairness in schools.

I encourage you to learn more about the contributions of our LGBT citizens and its rich and vibrant history. If you would like more information about this issue, or would be interested in joining me in my contingent during this year's Pride Parade on June 25th, please contact my office in San Francisco at (415) 557-3013, via the web at <http://www.assembly.ca.gov/Leno>, or email me directly at [Assemblymember.Leno@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Leno@asm.ca.gov).



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**Potrero Hill Neighborhood House**  
953 De Haro Street / San Francisco, CA 94107  
415 / 826-8080

Edward Hatter, Executive Director

The Potrero Hill Neighborhood House is a non-profit agency serving those most in need, with an emphasis on youth and education.  
The Nabe is wheelchair accessible.  
All services and activities are free.

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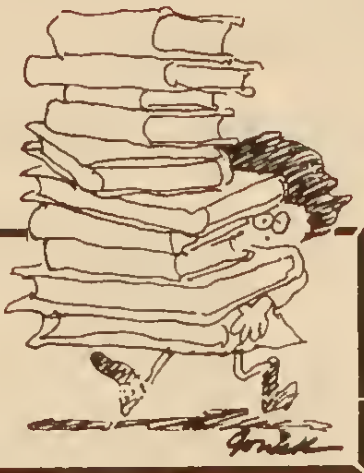
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**LIBRARY NEWS**  
**POTRERO BRANCH**  
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**Closed Sunday and Monday**  
Tuesday: 10 am - 8 pm  
Wednesday: 12 noon - 8 pm  
Thursday: 10 am - 6 pm  
Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm  
Saturday: 1 pm - 6 pm



**BRANCH RENOVATION UPDATE**

Plans are moving forward for branch renovation. To enlarge the branch by extending the second floor over the library's existing first floor, the design must come before the city's Planning Department for review. A notice will be posted at the branch announcing the upcoming variance hearing. If you haven't seen the design yet, stop by the library today to get a close-up look. You can also check the library's website at <http://sfpl.org/news/blip/potrero-survey.htm>. For further information about the Branch Library Improvement Program, please call (415) 557-4354.

On a related note, Potrero Hill residents had the opportunity last month to meet artist Gina Telcoci, who will be creating an artwork for the renovated branch. Ms. Telcoci is a sculptor who creates three-dimensional artworks with plants and other natural materials. For further information about the new Potrero Branch artwork process, call Judy Moran, Arts Commission Public Art Project Manager, at (415) 252-2586.

**FOR TEENS THIS SUMMER**

If you are between the ages of 13 and 18, you can join the library's TEEN SUMMER READ 2006, which runs from June 16 through July 28. Come in and sign up, keep track of what you read and your time, fill out a "Comment Card" for each 10 hours of reading that you do, and receive prizes for reading!

**SOMETHING FOR CHILDREN**

"Don't Bug Me...I'm Reading" is the theme for San Francisco Public Library's 2006 Summer Reading Club, which runs from June 17 through August 12. The purpose of the Summer Reading Club is to encourage children to keep reading during the summer. Preschool-age children also can participate by having someone read to them. All children up through age 13 who join the club and participate will receive small incentive prizes for reading, and upon completion of reading for eight or more hours, will receive a grand prize. Grand prize options include the following: paperback books, theme-related toys, and passes to Bay Area museums and attractions such as the Presidio Bowling Center, the California Academy of Sciences, Bay Area Discovery Museum, ZEUM, and San Francisco Zoo. Come to the library for more details.

**CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS IN JUNE**

In conjunction with the Summer Reading Club, Potrero Library will have many free programs for children throughout the summer, thanks to funding from the Friends of the Library. Here's the lineup of this month's special programs:

- Thursday, June 22 at 10:30 a.m. "Snuggle Bunny Sing-Along", featuring storyteller and singer Sheila Rubin. For children of all ages.
- Wednesday, June 28 at 2:00 p.m. Live from the Insect Discovery Lab! Fascinating bugs come to the library. For children ages 5 and up.

There are also other programs for children throughout the month:  
Infant/toddler lapsit, featuring stories, songs, and rhymes  
Thursdays, June 1, 15, and 29 at 10:30 a.m. For children newborn through age 3.

**Evening storytime**

Tuesdays, June 6, 20, and 27 at 7:00 p.m. For ages 3 to 7 years old.

**Evening films**

Tuesday, June 13 at 7:00 p.m.: "Let's Give Kitty a Bath", "The Ceterpillar and the Polliwog" and "The Foolish Frog". For ages 3 and older.

Please note: All library programs are free. Meeting room is not accessible by elevator. Groups, please call in advance for reservations.

Jensa Woo  
Potrero Branch Library Manager

# Potrero Hill Library Closure to Bring More Space, Some Disruption

By Clifford Agocs

Starting next Spring, the Potrero Hill library will be closed for approximately 18 months for renovations. The \$2.8 million project is part of a \$106 million Citywide investment in its libraries, with all 26 branches either being reconstructed or moving from rented space into new buildings. The Excelsior branch, which reopened last summer, was the first to be completed. The Mission Bay branch, located at 4th and Berry and scheduled to be opened on July 28th, is the first new library built in San Francisco in forty years. The Mission Bay and Visitacion Valley libraries will offer extended hours while the Potrero Hill branch is closed.

The San Francisco Public Library, lead by City Librarian Luis Herrera, is taking additional steps to ensure library access to all neighborhoods during the renovation process. According to Herrera, book mobile service is currently available at designated times and locations in the neighborhoods where branches are under renovation, and children's programs, like Potrero's "Evening Storytime," will continue at local

community centers. Interim service brochures will be available at the branch and online a few months before the closing, and a community meeting will be held to ensure that the public is aware of the services being offered. Artist renderings of the renovated buildings are also available online.

The system-wide renovation will retrofit library buildings for earthquakes, modernize computer and electrical systems – including offering Wifi access at Potrero Hill and other branches – and improve accessibility through the use of elevators and American Disability Act-compliant bathrooms. Library officials also hope that the renovations will create more efficient space through designated teen and children areas, community rooms, and self-checkout stations. Potrero Hill will also receive a public art installment created by local artist Gina Telcoci, as well as an expanded second story where a new reading room, Herrera says, "will have one of the best views of any city library."

More information is available online at, <http://www.sfpl.org/news/blip/improvementprogram.htm>

# San Francisco Public Library Celebrates Gay Pride Month in June

The San Francisco Public Library will celebrate the lives, culture and history of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals during Gay Pride Month in June with author readings, a tribute to late writers, a film screening, and an exhibit commemorating a turning point in queer history.

Highlights include the Compton's Cafeteria Riot of 1966: 40th Anniversary Commemorative Exhibit, which tells how San Francisco's transgender community rioted against police harassment at a late-night restaurant in the Tenderloin in 1966. Three years before the more famous fight at New York's Stonewall Inn sparked the gay liberation movement, the little-known Compton's Cafeteria Riot helped launch a movement for transgender rights that is now entering its fifth decade. The exhibit will be on display May 20–July 20 in the James C. Hormel Gay & Lesbian Centet at the Main Library.

Curated by historian and filmmaker Susan Stryker, the exhibit of images and artifacts, tells the almost-forgotten story of the struggle for acceptance fought by the transgender community, and highlights the forces of change that led to the riot in the context of urban renewal, anti-war activism, the civil rights movement, and the emergence of the counterculture. Stryker and Victor Silverman will also host a special screening of their documentary "Screaming Queens: The Riot at Compton's Cafeteria," followed by a panel discussion featuring historians and activists. The film will show at 2 PM on June 17 in the Koret Auditorium at the Main Library.

All programs and the exhibit are free and open to the public. For more information and listings of all other events for Gay Pride Month, please call (415) 557-4277 or visit <http://sfpl.org/librarylocations/main/glc/glc.htm>



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# Call for Entries: "Hill Community" Photos

## Theme

The theme is "Hill Community—Photography reflecting the unique community, in and around Potrero Hill."

Potrero Hill, also known as "Goat Hill" due to its pastoral past, offers great vistas in several directions from the top of the hill, as well as urban and industrial settings on and at the base of the hill. Past and present, "The Hill" has embodied a diverse and creative community and has maintained a strong sense of community through times of tremendous change.

Our call seeks to answer the following questions: "How is community created? What continues to make this a special place to live, work, go to school, have a business, make art? Who/what are the icons of our community? How have changes over the years affected our community for better or worse?" We ask photographers to think outside any usual "boxes" they may have placed around the idea of "community" and approach this theme with the unique spirit that is reflective of Potrero Hill. Of course, nocturnal photography is always welcome, but it is not the focus of this call for entries.

We will hang the show in July 2006 at Farley's Café on 18th Street on Potrero Hill. This café has quite a bit of hanging space and is always showing some great art on the walls. Farley's is a true San Francisco institution and a vibrant part of the Potrero Hill community, as well as a meeting place

for writers and artists of all types. Farley's motto is "Community in a cup" and its many contributions to our community was the initial inspiration for this theme.

## Medium/Presentation

This show is open to all photography, including digital. The piece will have to be framed or otherwise ready to hang and not exceed 20x20.

## Selection

Selection will be made by:

- Tim Baskerville of the Nocturnes ([www.thenocturnes.com](http://www.thenocturnes.com))
- Adam Moore, an accomplished photographer and instructor of photography who lives on the Hill, ([www.adammooore.com](http://www.adammooore.com))
- Roger Hillyard, Farley's owner ([www.farleyscafe.com](http://www.farleyscafe.com))
- Greta & Manu Schnetzler, longtime Hill residents and photographers ([www.schnetzler.com](http://www.schnetzler.com))

## Dates

**June 14** Deadline for e-mailing photos

**June 20** Artists will be informed of acceptance

**July 1** Selected pieces to be delivered

Early July 2006 Opening reception at

Farley's Café.

## Submissions

All photographers are invited to participate. It is not necessary to have a Potrero Hill address or connection. Come discover the joy of photographing our neighborhood and experiencing our welcoming community (then drop by Farley's to warm up with a coffee and see some other great art).

Submit up to three digital images by e-mail. Each image should be no more than 600 x 600 pixels and 200KB in JPEG format. E-mail the digital files to [manu@schnetzler.com](mailto:manu@schnetzler.com).

Be sure to include the following information with your submissions:

- Name
  - Address
  - Phone number
  - E-mail address
  - For each submitted image:
  - Title
  - Medium (digital print, silver gelatin...)
  - Print size
  - Frame size
  - Price or NFS
- (All sales to be arranged directly with the artists - no commissions taken by the venue or organizers.)

## Contact

For more information, visit [www.schnetzler.com](http://www.schnetzler.com) or e-mail Manu Schnetzler at [manu@schnetzler.com](mailto:manu@schnetzler.com).

UCSF and Friends of the San Francisco Public Library present—

## TURNING BACK THE CLOCK: Genes, Aging, and Disease

—An evening with Cynthia Kenyon

Monday, June 26, 2006

6:00 - 7:30 pm

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Cynthia Kenyon, PhD, is Herbert Boyer Professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics and director of the Hillblom Center for the Biology of Aging at UCSF's Mission Bay Campus.

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# View Publisher

Continued from page 1

made, but her Japanese companions didn't show up at the new campus. It was only later that she realized her old classmates had disappeared into the internment camps of World War II.

During the 1970s Ms. Passen, along with her close friend, the late Enola Maxwell, then the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House's Executive Director, emerged as strong community leaders in a period in which women's influence on public policy was just beginning to surface. Their efforts, in part, laid the groundwork for the current dominance of women in state and local politics, which includes U.S. Senators Barbara Boxer and Diane Feinstein, U.S. Representative Nancy Pelosi, and District 10 Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, who is Ms. Maxwell's daughter.

A review of the View's headlines over the past three and a half decades shows how much the community has changed, and how much it's stayed the same. One of the earliest articles, appearing in the September 1970 issue, detailed the community's opposition to a proposed heliport to be located at Pier 70, which wasn't defeated until 1984 — not all that different from today's controversial proposal to site a similar facility at nearby San Francisco General Hospital. Neighborhood skirmishes over proposed heliports, usually to be located at a various bay-side sites, have been a regular feature in the View throughout its history.

During Ruth's tenure babies were born, families moved in and out of the neighborhood, and some of our most treasured community leaders passed away, or, in the case of a mayor and supervisor, were killed. Potrero Hill resident Art Agnos was elected mayor, and another community member, John Burton, was voted into various increasingly powerful state legislative positions. Elementary and high schools opened and closed. The landscape changed: the mini-park at DeHaro and Southern Heights was created in the early-1970s, with McKinley Park at



Ruth Passen and Todd McNaught sift through over 35 years of history at the Potrero View offices. Photo by Christian Butler.

the top of Vermont Street being revitalized a couple of decades later.

In 1984, Good Life Grocery, who's owners, Kayren Hudiburgh and Lester Zeidman, have been long-time View supporters, fought successfully to stay in the community in the face of serious eviction threats. In 1987, another View mainstay, Philip DeAndrade, who at the time was identified as "being 43-years-old old, an Oakland native, born to a Portuguese immigrant longshoreman father and his wife," was reported to have taken a job in Washington, D.C. "on the staff of Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi. For many on Potrero Hill the first shock - of "losing" one of the community's most active small businessmen - was soon followed by puzzlement: what's the connection between pizza and politics?"

Through the years the View won its share of awards. In 1971, a scarce year since it was launched, and with a typical monthly length of just eight pages, the paper won the Robert Krauskopf Memorial Award for Excellence in Journalism. Ten years later, Ms. Passen, then serving as the View's editor,

a position she would hold until this issue, was the recipient of a Media Award from the Mental Health Association of San Francisco. And in 1978 Giacomo Patri put the finishing touches on the View's now iconic masthead.

A review of past headlines indicates that the community has much unfinished business. "Public Access Urged: Waterfront Periled," shouted a 1970 headline, underneath which an article detailed efforts to reclaim the Potrero waterfront with marinas, picnic greens and walking piers. And since the early 1980s there have been perennial stories about proposed or operating power plants in the neighborhood, and the associated efforts to oppose or close them, not unlike those that appear in this month's issue.

On Sunday, June 25, at 2:00 at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House a celebration will be held to honor Ruth Passen's decades-long service to the View and the wider Potrero community. All are invited to attend and celebrate Ruth's past service and future life's paths.

Note to readers: we originally planned to have a more comprehensive set of linked articles detailing Ruth Passen's role as the View's editor and publisher; as well as features on past View volunteers and writers, and the stories that have appeared in the paper. Unfortunately, the freelance writer to whom we assigned these stories did not produce as expected. We regret this outcome. It serves as a reminder of the challenging task of publishing a community newspaper with limited resources and an uncertain world.

## A Brief History of the Potrero View

By Alison Fish

Below is a brief time-line of the history of the Potrero View newspaper.

1970

Bill and Jodie Dawson publish a newsletter for the Hill called Hills and Dales.

Lenny Anderson is drafted to fight in Vietnam. He successfully claims Conscientious Objector status, and the Draft Board assigns him to community service. Anderson finds his way to Potrero Hill, and with the Dawsons and other volunteers publishes the first issue of The Potrero View. The issue is produced with a borrowed electric typewriter and a \$100 donation from St. Teresa's Church. A front page editorial titled "Welcome to the View" says:

A regular neighborhood newspaper is the first step in the effort to bring this community together in order to solve our common problems. It will provide facts about events and issues as well as a forum where views of various segments of the community may be expressed. Letters will be printed as space allows. All this will help us to get to know each other better and to produce a better understanding of urban problems as they exist on Potrero Hill.

1971

The View announces it will begin selling ads as a means to finance the cost of expanding the newspaper to eight pages.

Ruth Passen formally joins the View masthead.

The View receives the Robert Krauskopf Memorial Award for Excellence in Journalism.

1984

Ruth Passen is honored by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, who cite "her tireless efforts as the editor of the Potrero View and her dedication in providing adequate services to the Potrero Hill community."

1985

Ruth Passen is one of three San Francisco newspaper editors who receive the San Francisco Sheriff Department's Certificate of Commendation.

2006

Ruth Passen converts the production of the newspaper from cut-and-paste to an all digital format.



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## Need to Know: A Guide to Neighborhood Web Sites

With the emergence of blogging, and as Potrero Hill's population changes, the number of websites serving the community has exploded. Here are some of our favorites:

[www.pier70sf.org/dogpatch](http://www.pier70sf.org/dogpatch): find out about our historic Dogpatch neighborhood.

[www.pier70sf.org](http://www.pier70sf.org): read about Pier 70's past, present, and potential future.

[www.potrerohill.biz](http://www.potrerohill.biz): the Potrero Hill Association of Merchants and Businesses' members-only website, with an open access, searchable database of neighborhood merchants. Buy local!

[www.potrerohillsf.com](http://www.potrerohillsf.com): provides tidbits about neighborhood goings-on, including commentary, historic photographs, and police reports.

[www.potreroboosters.org](http://www.potreroboosters.org): Serving Potrero since 1926, the Boosters keep an eye on local politics and community issues.

[www.savewebster.com](http://www.savewebster.com): a group of dedicated parents working to fend-off

the potential closure of Daniel Webster Elementary School, and make it a place we'd all be proud to send our kids.

[www.sfpower.org](http://www.sfpower.org): find out what's going on with proposed new power plant and transmission projects, the Potrero Power Plant, and low- or no-cost ways to reduce your energy use.

[www.stophelipad.org](http://www.stophelipad.org): if you're against helicopters landing on San Francisco General Hospital, this site is for you.

Other community resources:

[www.islaiscreek.org](http://www.islaiscreek.org): privately-run site all about Islais Creek.

[www.neighborhoodnewswire.com](http://www.neighborhoodnewswire.com): neighborhood news, including many pieces focusing on Southeast San Francisco.

[www.parkscansf.org](http://www.parkscansf.org): news and reviews of the City's parks and playgrounds.

Know of any interesting, community-serving websites – let the View know and we'll list them in future issues!

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## Enola D. Maxwell Middle School of the Arts; A Special Place

By Ruth Passen

Something special has been happening at a school in our community. It's been happening for decades—ever since the school was founded for 7th and 8th grade students in 1971. It's a love affair between children and the people who teach them.

Now named the Enola D. Maxwell Middle School of the Arts, the school was established as the Potrero Hill Middle School, located on De Haro Street. The school started as a Junior High School, and eventually became the Enola D. Maxwell Middle School.

The school began its history of educating youngsters with a dedicated staff of teachers headed by Thomas Sammon. Mr. Sammon's brother, Father Peter Sammon, was the priest at St. Teresa's Church on Potrero Hill. The Sammons were the first of many sets of siblings who taught at the school over the years.

After more than thirty years of service, the Enola D. Maxwell School of the Arts will close its doors this month. To honor the history of the school, its staff and teachers, a dinner party was held on April 28th. More than 100 people attended the event. The evening was reminiscent of "A Summer of Love" get-together, with many celebrants who had taught and/or were students, parents, and friends of the school.

What made the evening so special was the long history and relationships between school staff and the Potrero Hill community, and especially the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House. The "Nabe," as it is fondly known, became a vital link to the community over the years under the leadership of Enola D. Maxwell. For instance, when Maxwell teachers Jack Jacqua and Joe Marshall looked for an after-school location for the Omega Boys Club, they were warmly invited to share space at the Nabe.

Over the years many residents and families volunteered to support the school and its staff, helping to keep the school open

and relevant. Sadly, that support evaporated over time.

Marc Christensen was a teacher at the school when it opened, and "will be there when it closes." While he no longer teaches at the school he maintains a school district office at the site. He will transfer to another San Francisco high school in the fall.

Another teacher said the "school never had strong community support," and floundered. For a while the turnover of principals was high, peaking at three different individuals in the position in one semester! Though a number of people at the event told disappointing stories of declining school support and student enrollment, the strongest sentiments were expressed by teachers who remembered the school's positive responses and accomplishments over the years.

One teacher recalled a student/teacher homage to a favorite teacher who died past year, Tony Alvite. Mr. Alvite had a long teaching career. The simple but moving comments at his memorial explained why people become teachers—how a teacher's life becomes entwined with his or her students, fellow staff members, and the parents with whom they interact. Songs and poetry written by students, now in high school, left strong images of a man who cared and the legacy he left with the students he taught.

Maxwell teachers shared their happiness, anxieties, and a range of school goings-on that carried over into their private lives. Despite the disappointing enrollment figures, staff, families, and school supporters continued to champion the school and tried, unsuccessfully, to convince school district leaders to retain the building and programs for middle school students. Sadly, these efforts were unsuccessful, and the final decision was a death knell to the Potrero Hill middle school.

I am personally grateful to have been involved with the dedicated staff, teachers, and parents of the Enola D. Maxwell School of the Arts. I know that my friendship with many of them will continue for many years to come.

## The Jackson Pirates Prepare for Another Championship Year



Back Row L to R: Dave Fucillo, Coach; Brett Goldstein, Coach; Donovan Boileau; Chris Pulusian; Bob Boileau, Head Coach.

Middle Row L to R: Young Ene; Joe Galang; German Fernandez; Ranier Tanega.

Front Row L to R: Chris Anguiano; Eric Leer; Gio Gutierrez; Deyrin Gonzalez. Not pictured: Will Colon.

This 7th and 8th Grade SF Youth Baseball League team is organized through, practices at, and even occasionally plays at Jackson Rec Center. The team was the 6th and 7th grade citywide champions in 2005. Their Head Coach said, "This team seems to really enjoy playing good baseball together. We hope to have a winning season this year and be in the Citywide Playoffs in June. Then we'll organize our own youth summer baseball program/league at Jackson for 7th/8th and 5th/6th grades agegroups. Anyone interested should contact us at Jackson Rec at 554-9527 or at boileau@earthlink.net".

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**Tuesday, June 6th** - Art Reception: "The Sweet Science" A show of boxing photos, posters & memorabilia dedicated to Floyd Parrerson. Photos & curated by Jillian Soto, co-sponsored by the Third Street Boxing Gym.

**Thursday, June 8th** - Blue-grass by the San Bruno Mountain Boys, 7pm.

**Saturday, June 17th** - Saturday afternoon concert series continues with

"Presidents Breakfast" jamming electro-jazz-funk-dub tunes, 3pm.

**Sunday, June 18th** - Fathers Day. Farley's annual tradition of honoring all dads continues. Bring dad in for a free coffee drink of his choice (he earned it raising you).

**Tuesday, June 20th** - Voice Studio Showcase, 8pm.

**Wednesday, June 21st** - Summer Solstice: 108 sun salutations at Yoga Sita, 1501 Mariposa Street, followed by free coffee, tea or chai at Farley's.

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Price: \$669,000

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# Hunters Point Power Plant Closed

Continued from page 1

said Campbell.

"All the cards are stacked against communities on energy issues," said Greg Karras of Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), another environmental health and justice organization that has been working in the Bayview since the early 1990s.

Karras stressed the importance of looking at the plant and its closure in the context of the larger system. "It's one urban energy system," he said. "It's impossible to replace any of it without considering all of it. There's no way to describe the situation accurately without bringing in both plants," referring to Mirant Corporation's Potrero Power Plant, which is still running.

After buying the Potrero facility from PG&E in 1999, Mirant Corporation proposed to vastly expand it, which incited strong opposition from the predominately European-American Potrero Hill community. According to Karras, the California Independent Systems Operator (CAISO), which is responsible for ensuring the state's electricity reliability, and Mirant claimed that expanding the Potrero plant would help shut-down the Hunters Point plant. "It was a divide and conquer strategy," said Karras. "And it didn't work."

The strategy backfired, with groups in both communities coalescing into a new collaborative. By early-2002, a formal Coalition had emerged, including CBE, Greenaction, Literacy for Environmental Justice, San Francisco Community Power, and Bayview Advocates for Environmental Health and Justice. Many of these groups were funded by the San Francisco Department of the Environment, with monies secured as the result of the sale of the Potrero Power Plant, to specifically work on closure of the Hunters Point Plant, or more generally on energy issues.

Together they drafted the "Community Energy Plan," which called for conservation and load shifting, an increased reliance on renewable energy sources, and more transmission capacity. The groups claimed that such measures would both avoid the need to expand the Potrero plant and allow the Hunters Point Plant

to be closed.

The Coalition first convinced the City to adopt the plan, and then shifted their attention to CAISO, which, along with PG&E, would need to agree to close the plant. "We came at them from all sides," said Potrero activist John Borg, "some of the organizations were better at straight-up advocacy, while others provided the technical expertise necessary to be real players in the regulatory process, and implemented energy management measures at the neighborhood level."

The stiff opposition to the proposed Potrero Power Plant expansion and calls to shutter the Hunters Point Plant caught CAISO's attention. In 2002 CAISO staff began a series of meetings with Coalition members and the City. Through these meetings the Community Energy Plan was used as the basis for a technical analysis of how best to serve San Francisco steadily increasing electricity needs. "This community is the most knowledgeable about electricity of any I've seen. A lot of the best technical suggestions came from the community," said Karras, who co-chaired one of the technical working groups.

According to Gary DeShazo of the CAISO, the meetings were intended to educate the community about the technical obstacles to their demands and to obtain their support for the necessary transmission projects. "We really did everything right in regards to the community groups," said DeShazo, but "they were always wanting us to do things faster than it was physically possible to do them."

The three-year effort resulted in an Energy Action Plan widely supported by all of the participants. The Plan was unveiled in 2004 by Mayor Gavin Newsom, City Attorney Dennis Herrera, Supervisor Sophie Maxwell and other city officials, at a press conference held in front of the Potrero Power Plant. Mayor Newsom called it "a major milestone in accomplishing our goal of reducing reliance on fossil fuels, improving air quality and moving San Francisco towards a self-sustaining, renewable energy future."

The Action Plan included the decom-

missioning of both plants as its long-term goal, and outlined the steps needed to reach that goal, which consisted predominately of completing twelve projects to increase transmission capacity. Of these the 230 kV Jefferson-Martin transmission line was by far the biggest and most expensive.

Although PG&E's contract with the CAISO to operate the Hunters Point Power Plant will not expire until the end of the year, completion of the Jefferson-Martin line on April 29 enabled the plant to be closed.

After their years of hard work, the Bayview community activists are relieved,

but they're not about to rest on their laurels. Harrison said she is "tickled pink," but emphasized that this was just one battle. "It's never been just the power plant. The Bayview is a community of issues, and all of these issues are joined at the hip," she said, "But we fought this monstrosity, we took it on, and we're ready to take on a few others." Upcoming battles include cleaning up local Superfund sites, challenging a proposal to construct yet another transmission project in Potrero's Dogpatch neighborhood, and, most importantly, closing the remaining power plant in Potrero.



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# City Officials Move a Step Closer to Closing the Potrero Power Plant

Continued from page 1

through cooling.

According to Herrera, however, in an opinion published in the San Francisco Chronicle the day of the Board meeting, once-through cooling has a devastating impact on the eco-system surrounding the plant. "The adverse impact to the regional environment isn't limited to the fish and other organisms essential to the bay's ecosystem that are sucked into the plant, cooked alive, then spewed back. Mounting evidence additionally demonstrates that the Potrero plant's massive output in shallow water represents a significant environmental threat, too, stirring up polluted sediments laced with harmful levels of copper, dioxins, mercury, PCBs and other toxins, and dispersing them throughout the bay."

But according to Mirant's Mechanical Engineer Dave Hansel, the Potrero Power Plant, which at peak times delivers 362 megawatts of power to San Francisco, has undergone significant upgrades, reducing pollution risks. He added, "the water returns to the Bay just as we took it from the Bay."

Supervisor Sophie Maxwell told the

Board that her main concern was for the people who use the recycled bay water to play in and catch fish. "Kids get in that water, people get in that water no matter how many signs you put up," said Maxwell. "I am asking you to take another look at the permit."

In addition to city officials the Board heard from more than twenty individuals and organizations who opposed the permit extension. At the end of the day, the Board voted 6-1 to not renew the permit after 2008 unless Mirant can prove the plant imposes no adverse effects on the bay.

Community groups were thrilled by the city's commitment to closing down the plant. "It was amazing the city engaged at that level," said CBE Senior Scientist Greg Karras. "This sets a high hurdle for Mirant to get over; it puts the burden on Mirant to prove there is no harm," said Karras.

Karras is confident the plant will shut down, but advises city officials and community groups to be ready for another fight in two years. "We need to be ready for Mirant's proposal that they should be allowed to keep dumping in the bay because they can prove that pigs fly," he said.



## GETTING INVOLVED

Dogpatch Neighborhood Association usually meets the second Tuesday of each even-numbered month at 7 p.m., at 950 Tennessee Street. Next meeting: Tuesday June 13.

PHAMB (Potrero Hill Association of Merchants & Businesses) meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. at Goat Hill Pizza, corner of Connecticut and 18th Streets. Visit [www.potrerohill.biz](http://www.potrerohill.biz) or call 415-341-8949. Next meeting: June 13.

PHPA (Potrero Hill Parents' Association) meets on the first Friday of the month in the playground behind the Potrero Hill Recreation Center at Madera and Arkansas streets at 12 noon. Next meeting: June 2. To join the PHPA listserve, send an e-mail to [phpa-all@yahoogroups.com](mailto:phpa-all@yahoogroups.com).

Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association meets the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (social time starting at 6:30 p.m.) in the wheelchair-accessible Game Room of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. For more information visit [www.potreroboosters.org](http://www.potreroboosters.org) or call President Tony Kelly at 341-8040 or e-mail him at [president@potreroboosters.org](mailto:president@potreroboosters.org). Next meeting: June 27.

Potrero Hill Garden Club usually meets the last Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. for a potluck lunch in a local home or garden. Informal discussion will be held on a variety of subjects relating to organic, edible, or ornamental gardening appropriate for Potrero Hill's particular mini-climate. Call 648-6740 for details. Next meeting: June 25.

ROSES (Residents of the Southeast Sector) meets the first Thursday of each month with members of the S.E. Police Dept. to discuss issues of public concern. The Forum takes place at 7 p.m. in the community facility downstairs at 1800 Oakdale at Phelps. Refreshments served after the meeting. Next meeting: June 1.

Starr King Openspace Board of Directors meets the third Tuesday of each odd-numbered month at 7 p.m., Potrero Branch Library, 1616 20th Street. Next meeting: July 20. Volunteer for the Park work days continue every month on the third Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Next work day: May 20 at the park, Carolina Street, south of 23rd. Mail: Starr King Park, P.O. Box 880293, S.F., CA 94188-0293. Call 810-4900 for more information.

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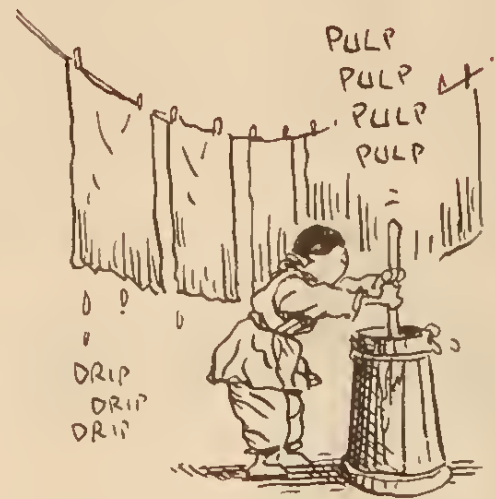
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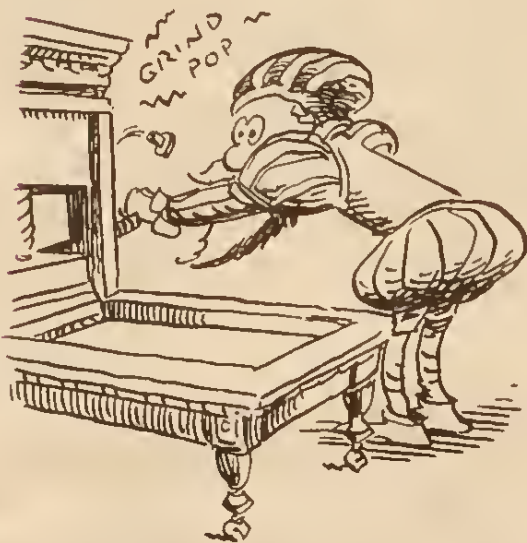
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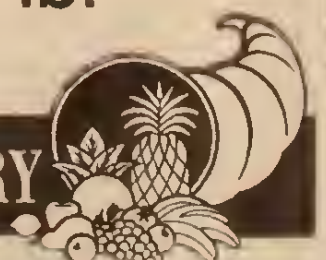
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## San Francisco Businesses Help Avoid Summer Blackouts

By Clifford Agoos  
Special to the Neighborhood Newswire

For the past two months George Nasrah, owner of Geary Wholesale Cash n' Carry in the Bayview, has been getting paid to shut-off the lights in his warehouse during peak hours of energy use. "Our skylights give us enough light to keep us in business and safe," he says.

Nasrah is participating in a "demand response" program developed by Potrero-based non-profit San Francisco Community Power. The program, which is the first of its kind available to small- and medium-sized businesses, is designed to reduce power use when demand for energy is particularly high, and electricity costs are spiking. In previous years California has had to purchase high-cost energy from out of state power providers to prevent blackouts. SF Power advocated for the program, and the California Public Utility Commission adopted it, as a more cost-effective way of meeting peak energy needs. "It's cheaper and better for California to pay businesses to conserve, rather than to build new power plants or to buy energy from out of state," says Paul Liotsakis, SF Power's Associate Director.

Nasrah is just one node on a regional telephone chain. When the state calls for power, SF Power and other "aggregators" contact businesses which have agreed to temporarily reduce their electrical load. "They'll be getting a phone call the day before and a reminder call the day of," explains Liotsakis. The programs frees up energy resources to be used for other high-priority uses. In exchange for their

efforts participants receive a monthly payment of \$8 for every kilowatt their willing to reduce during the week between 11 am and 7 pm.

SF Power launched the initiative as a limited pilot in 2005, and is now recruiting businesses throughout the City and elsewhere. "The pitch is that being green is good for your bottom line," says Liotsakis. SF Power is also offering enrollment incentives, including up to \$250 worth of lighting upgrades that will further reduce participating businesses' energy use and costs. Nasrah installed energy efficient lighting at no cost, and has seen his energy bill drop by thousands of dollars a month.

The program is available to businesses located in San Francisco, San Mateo and Alameda counties. Participants range from Mario's, a small Bayview deli, to the San Francisco Wholesale Market Association's multi-story office building. "We work out an agreement with each business on a number of kilowatts they are comfortable with saving over certain peak periods during the day," explains Liotsakis. SF Power is recruiting businesses of all sizes, as well as non-profit organizations and schools, he says, "but larger businesses with skylights and flexible power uses are the ideal candidates."

SF Power has a goal of securing one megawatt of curtailable load by the end of the year, enough power for more than 1,000 San Francisco households. To reach this goal the non-profit is offering incentives for businesses which provide referrals to the program. "The more the merrier," according to Liotsakis.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## On the Hill

### Kids of Potrero Hill

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Big Think Studios

1426 18th St (between Connecticut and Missouri).

### Hunter Gatherers

June 8 through July 9

This summer, Killing My Lobster is proud to present the world premiere of its first-ever full-length play: Peter Nachtrieb's Hunter Gatherers. Directed by Tracy Ward, and featuring KML veterans Melanie Case, John Kovacevich, and Jon Wolanske, and Alexis Lezin (Adam Bock's Five Flights, and many other Bay Area productions), Hunter Gatherers tells of a dinner reunion amongst old friends that goes deeply, shockingly, hilariously awry...to put it mildly.

Thick House

1695 18th Street (between Carolina & Arkansas)

<http://killingmylobster.com/>

Wed-Sat 8 PM; Sun 7 PM

Tickets \$15-\$25

## Around Town

### Art

#### Nature Rules

Inspired by the many shapes and forms in nature, these mixed media works reflect the artists' views from close up and far away. Curated by Judith La Rosa.

Opening Reception: Thursday, June 22, 2006 7-9 PM

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Saturday, June 24, 7-10 PM

Saturday, July 15, 7-10 PM

Saturday, August 12, 7-10 PM

Poets from across the nation and the Bay Area gather to celebrate innovative poetry in a series of readings throughout the summer. Hear some of the most exciting established and emerging poets from the Bay Area and beyond, including Dodie Bellamy, Rebekah Bloyd, Taylor Brady, Lee Ann Brown, Maxine Chernoff, Diane DiPrima, Edward Foster, Graham Foust, Kathleen Fraser, Peach Friedman, Gloria Frym, Brenda Hillman, Andy Nicholson, D.A. Powell, Elizabeth Robinson, Truong Tran, and many more.

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Performance times vary. For a full schedule, visit [www.themarsh.org](http://www.themarsh.org).

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### Film

#### 8th Annual San Francisco Black Film Festival

June 6-11, 2006

Theater Artaud will host the 8th Annual San Francisco Black Film Festival this year. The festival celebrates African-American cinema and the African Diaspora, showcasing a diverse collection of films from emerging and established filmmakers.

Theater Artaud

450 Florida St. (between 17th and Mariposa)

Ticket prices range from \$8-\$10, with daily and festival passes available.

For information on films and tickets, please visit [www.sfbff.org](http://www.sfbff.org) or call 415.771.9271.

### Festivals & Events

#### Project Open Hand invites you to the Sixth Annual Dessert First

Sunday, June 11, 2006, 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Some of the Bay Area's most talented pastry chefs will assemble at One Market Restaurant and One Market Pavilion for Project Open Hand's Sixth Annual Dessert First. Besides fantastic desserts, there'll be hors d'oeuvres, cheeses, cocktails, wine, port tasting, coffee, and Silent and Live Auctions. All proceeds go to Project Open Hand.

One Market Restaurant and One Market Pavilion

One Market Street, San Francisco

Ticket prices range from \$75-\$125

For tickets, please call (415) 447-2416 or visit [www.openhand.org](http://www.openhand.org)

#### 30th Annual San Francisco Free Folk Festival

June 24-25, 2006, 12 PM to 10 PM

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460 Arguello (at Geary)

[www.sffolkfest.org/2006/frameset.html](http://www.sffolkfest.org/2006/frameset.html)

#### 28th Annual San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival Intersections: Time, Place & Spirit

June 10 & 11; 17 & 18; 24 & 25, 2006

Sat 2 PM & 8 PM; Sun 2 PM

See the world on one stage at the internationally renowned San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival. Thirty Bay Area companies representing dance traditions from more than 20 cultures around the world will perform over three weekends in June at the Palace of Fine Arts Theater. See the magnificent local dance troupe, LiberTango, based at the Metronome Ballroom in Potrero Hill. For sheer beauty, energy and breadth, nothing surpasses this annual dance celebration, the largest and most prestigious gathering of its kind in the country. This year's theme is Intersections: Time, Place, and Spirit with a different line up of performers each weekend.

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Various sessions from June 19 to August 25

Tuition is \$220-\$230 per week.

Circus Center, home of the San Francisco School of Circus Arts, Pickle Circus, Clown Conservatory and San Francisco Youth Circus, is pleased to offer Summer Circus Day Camp for 10 weeks this summer! Children ages 7 – 15 years old are invited to enroll for one or more weeks. Circus Day Camp is a fun, safe, supportive and challenging environment where children can explore the many skills that create the Circus Arts.

The Hypnodrome Creepshow Camps

575 10th St. (between Bryant & Brannan)  
415.377.4202  
www.hypnodrome.com

Ages: 9 to 17

Two week sessions in June and July

Tuition is \$350

Creepshow Camp participants explore scary entertainment from gothic ghosts to modern movie monsters in two-week camp sessions that begin with a behind-the-scenes tour of the theatre and culminate in performances on the Hypnodrome stage.

Live Oak School Summer Program

1555 Mariposa Street (between Arkansas & Carolina)  
415.861.8840 x253

<http://www.liveoaksf.org/look/summeroaks.html>

Ages: K to 9th Grade

Classes led by skilled instructors in arts, academics, sports and project-based learning immerse students in a world of summer learning and fun. Half-day and all-day sessions, and pre- and post-session extended care offer maximum flexibility for families.

Metronome Summer Dance Camp Intensive

1830 17th Street (between Rhode Island & De Haro)  
415.252.9000 (Leandra or Rachael)

<http://www.metronomedancecenter.com>

Ages: 12-18 years old

Two sessions: June 19-23 and July 10-14

Tuition is \$199 per session or \$149 for SF Unified School District students.

Week-long day camps designed specifically to teach teens the basics and more of Swing dancing. Students learn East Coast Swing, Collegiate Shag, Charleston, Big Apple, Madison, Jitterbug Stroll, Shim Sham, and Foxtrot in a supportive and comfortable environment.

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There's plenty of storage and closet space, a one-car garage and a downstairs unwarranted unit with lovely picture windows onto the landscaped back yard. (This unit is currently tenant occupied).

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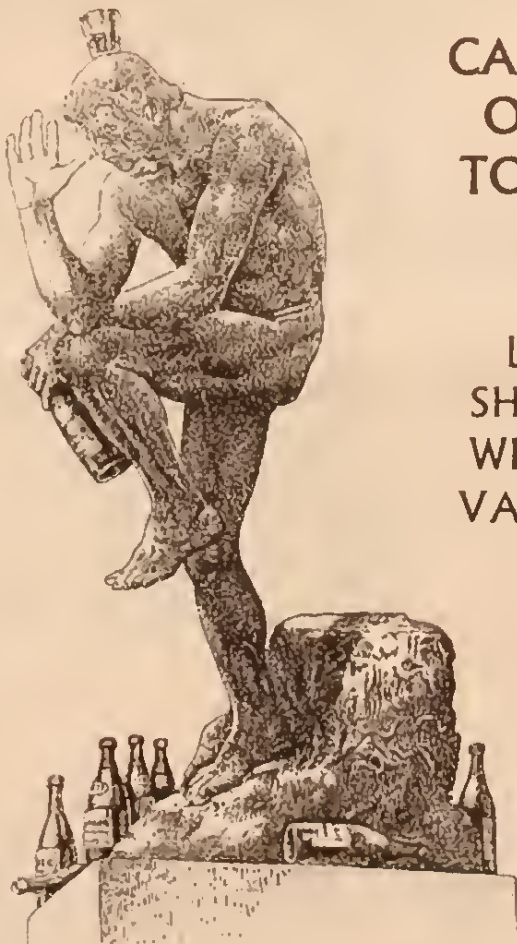
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## Out of Site

SOMARTS

934 Brannan Street (between 8th and 9th Streets)  
415.841.2215 phone  
www.outofsite-sf.org

Ages: 9th through 12th grades

June 26 - June 30: \$25 - \$200

July 10 - July 28: \$25 - \$600.

Tuition is sliding scale depending on income. Some scholarships available.

Out of Site's summer programs are an intensive and fun mix of studio work and field trips exploring San Francisco's arts scene. Classes are taught by professional artists who are experienced educators. One week intensives in photography and fashion design/customize your wardrobe; and three week intensives in visual arts (drawing, painting, sculpture, mixed media) and documentary theater/photography.

## Randall Museum Summer Activities

199 Museum Way  
San Francisco, CA 94114  
415.554.9600  
www.randallmuseum.org/events.cfm

Youth Classes are from 1-9 weeks in length, after school and on Saturdays. Special sessions and workshops are scheduled during school vacations and summer. Classes are for ages 6 and 17, and include Randall Clay Club, Robot Challenge, and Kids Woodworking.

Saturdays Are Special at the Randall Museum! Saturday morning drop-in family ceramics workshops and exciting afternoon art and science workshops make the museum a great place for kids and families. Also at the Museum every Saturday, Meet the Animals at 11:15 AM through a docent presentation, and see the animal feeding at noon. The ever-evolving and remarkable model train exhibit is open from 10am-4pm.

## SF/SPCA Summer Camp

2500 16th St. (between Alameda & Bryant)  
415.554.3064  
www.sfspca.org

Ages: 8 to 15

Weekly sessions June- August

Tuition is \$225/week. Financial aid is available.

The SPCA runs a series of week-long camps throughout the summer, and occasionally during school-year vacation breaks, offering hands-on dog and cat contact for children ages eight to 15. Activities include: dog walking & cat socialization, games, crafts, tours, guest speakers, animal-related education, field trips, professional demonstrations, veterinary observation, discussions, and animal support projects.

## Touchstone Climbing & Fitness Rock Climbing Camps

2295 Harrison St. (between 18th and 19th Streets)  
415.550.0515  
www.touchstoneclimbing.com

Ages: 6 to 17

Weekly classes start in June and run through August for children ages 6 to 17. Sign-up for five days of climbing, three hours of instruction daily, seven at Pipeworks. Beginner, intermediate, and advanced level climbers are welcome. Call for details, dates and prices.

## June is LGBT Pride Month

San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival: Frameline 30

June 15-25, 2006

The San Francisco International LGBT Film Festival celebrates its 30th anniversary this year with Frameline30, 11 days of the best queer cinema from home and abroad. The festival will run at the magnificent Castro Theatre, CinéArts @ Empire, Roxie Film Center and Victrola Theatre in San Francisco, and the Parkway Theater in Oakland.

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The Neighborhood House  
953 De Haro Street  
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Potrero Hill resident, Mark Taylor, will show his film, "Sensing the World by Echo" at the Frameline30. Check the Frameline30 website for details on screening date and time (unavailable at time of press). <http://www.frameline.org/festival/30th/index.html>

### Corpus Christi

June 1-4 and 8-11

Written by Terrence McNally; Directed by Angelique Heddings

A retelling of the Passion Play, the story of Christ's life and death—this time in a 20th century setting and from a gay perspective.

Theatre Rhinoceros

2926 - 16th Street (between Mission & South Van Ness)

415.861.5079

[www.therhino.org](http://www.therhino.org)

### Varla Jean Merman's Under a Big Top

June 1-10, 2006

Thursdays through Saturdays 8pm

"I've heard people complaining for years," Varla Jean Merman bellowed, "that it is really hard to find a Big Top in San Francisco! So, I had to take action!" Thus, her most colorful and riddled revue to date, Varla Jean Merman's Under a Big Top will play at the Victoria Theatre from June 1st - 10th. The show will include circus, carnival, magic, and freak shows. Varla will perform 6 shows only with special guests Matthew Martin and Steve Coenen. In the words of P. T. Barnum, Ms. Merman exclaimed "From the bottom of my heart, I'm a sucker! A sucker for a Big Top!"

Vitoria Theater

2961 16th Street (between Mission & South Van Ness)

(415) 863-7576

[www.victoriatheatre.org](http://www.victoriatheatre.org)

[www.varlaonline.com](http://www.varlaonline.com)

Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door

### National Queer Arts Festival

Produced each year during Pride month by the Queer Cultural Center (Qcc), National Queer Arts Festival (NQAF) celebrates and promotes the work of acclaimed local, national and international queer artists. Based upon the premise that the queer community is a microcosm of the world, NQAF is dedicated to encompassing its full diversity and presenting the breadth of our community's artists and arts organizations. Visit the NQAF's site for more information. <http://www.queerculturalcenter.org/Pages/QFest06/QAF06.html>



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**ATTENTION ARTISTS:** Goat Hill Pizza is looking for local artists to show their work at the restaurant. Please call Alicia Wong at 641-1440 if you are interested.

## Community Activities

**SENIORS (60+) DON'T EAT LUNCH ALONE.** Join us for daily lunch and add to your social life. Mon-Fri, hot nutritious meals--your first time with us you get a free lunch! Bingo, cards, birthday celebrations, special events, and other activities. For more information, call Dolores Maghari at 826-8080. PH Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St.

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